

are 11,000 weather observers in the United States, and only 25 people per year receive this high honor.

Brother Anselm's daily weather reports are known for their precision and timeliness and are very much appreciated. Data collected by Brother Anselm is sent on a monthly basis to the National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, NC. The information is then published in NOAA's Climatological Data, where it becomes a permanent record of the world's weather.

Additionally, Brother Anselm uses his amateur radio skills to deliver information to the National Weather Service when severe weather threatens the area.

I am so pleased to have the opportunity to properly recognize Brother Anselm Allen before the United States Congress for his outstanding example of dedication and volunteer efforts to the National Weather Service. Please join me in congratulating Brother Anselm on his receipt of the John Campanius Holm Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 4, I was in Kentucky, tending to official business, and was not present for rollcall votes No. 602 and 603. The votes were on House Concurrent Resolutions 176 and 94, respectively. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during today's rollcall votes on H. Con. Res. 176, supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Planning Week, and H. Con. Res. 94, the Direct Support Professional Recognition Resolution. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on both resolutions.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2691, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that I will be voting for H.R. 2691, the fiscal year 2003 Interior Appropriations Conference Report, but doing so with some reluctance. This report includes a provision that keeps the Department of Interior from performing its legal responsibility to conduct a complete accounting of the individual Indian trust. I voted to strike a similar provision in the

FY 2003 Interior Appropriations bill, which was stripped from the House-passed bill, and I am disappointed that it has reemerged in the conference report.

I understand the Committee's concern for the Cobell v. Norton class action lawsuit, which has been stalled for years with no satisfactory end in sight. We should certainly take aggressive steps to ensure that this case moves forward. However, I do not believe that Congress should circumvent due process by attaching this rider to the Interior Appropriations bill.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that this provision sends a terrible message to Indian country that the Federal Government is not committed to working in close consultation with the tribes on issues such as trust reform, or for that matter, ensuring that they have their day in court.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall numbers 602 and 603. I was unavoidably detained and was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall numbers 602 and 603.

TRIBUTE TO PFC JAMES AARON BOOZER

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private First Class James Aaron Boozer of Denham Springs, Louisiana. PFC Boozer serves in the 82nd Airborne, 173 Brigade. While serving in Iraq, PFC Boozer suffered grave injuries, and is under the care of the staff at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, DC.

It is because of people such as PFC Boozer that we continue to live safe and secure. America's men and women who answer the call of service and wear our Nation's uniform deserve respect and recognition for the enormous burden that they willingly bear. Because of these folks, our Nation remains free and strong in the face of danger.

On behalf of the people of Louisiana, I would like to thank PFC Boozer for his service to our country and I wish him a full and speedy recovery.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to an unexpected illness, I was unable to vote on rollcall votes 590 to 599. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

On rollcall vote 590, agreeing to the journal, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 591, the motion to recommit the conference report on H.R. 2115, the FAA Reauthorization Act, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 592, agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 2115, the FAA Reauthorization Act, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote 593, H. Res. 409, repudiating anti-Semitic remarks expressed by Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 594, the motion to recommit the conference report on H.R. 2691, the Interior Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 595, agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 2691, the Interior Appropriations Act, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote 596, H. Con. Res. 302, expressing the sense of Congress in welcoming President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan to the United States, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 597, H. Res. 421, the martial law rule for same day consideration of the conference report of H.R. 3289, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of FY2004, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote 598, the Johnson motion to instruct conferees on the conference report of H.R. 6, the Energy and Water Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote 599, the Davis motion to instruct conferees on the conference report of H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug Act, I would have voted "aye."

I ask for unanimous consent that this be inserted into the RECORD.

HONORING SPENCER VENEER LLC

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Spencer Veneer LLC of Spencer, West Virginia for being awarded a 2003 Export Achievement Certificate in recognition of an increased focus on exporting.

The Export Achievement Certificate was created to recognize small and medium-sized enterprises that have successfully entered the international marketplace for the first time or that have successfully entered a new market.

As our economy continues to become more global, it is important for industries of all types to develop relationships and ties in the international community. As the West Virginia economy diversifies, Spencer Veneer LLC has taken major steps forward to promote the Mountain State and all it has to offer to the world economy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of Spencer Veneer LLC.

GOVERNOR SID McMATH, A MAN OF HONOR

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to acknowledge the life and legacy of former Arkansas Governor Sid McMath, a statesman, a leader, a veteran, and a true gentleman who